(c) what steps would be taken by Government for not giving Government advertisements to such publications in order to stop the exploitation of journalists and writers by these publications?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity (DAVP) releases Government advertisements to the empanelled newspapers and magazines, as per the provisions of the Government's Advertisement Policy, available on DAVP's website *www.davp.nic.in.*

(b) No such complaints/information have ever been received in DAVP.

(c) Does not arise.

Transparency in purchase of defence equipment

2587. SHRIMATI VIPLOVE THAKUR: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) what steps have been taken by Government to ensure total transparency in the procedures for the purchase of defence equipment;

(b) whether it is a fact that some adverse remarks have been made about some of the defence deals in the recent CAG report;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) what is the view of the Government on these adverse remarks?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) The Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP-2006) and Defence Procurement Manual (DPM-2006) have been promulgated with effect from 1st September, 2006, DPP-2006 covers all Capital Acquisitions (except medical equipment) undertaken by the Ministry of Defence. DPM-2006 covers Revenue Procurements of the Ministry of Defence.

The provisions incorporated in Defence Procurement Procedures for achieving transparency in acquisition include: (i) An 'Integrity Pact' between the Government department and the bidder for all contracts above Rs. 100 crores; (ii) Dealing directly with Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEM) or Authorised vendors or Government Sponsored Export Agencies (applicable in case of countries where domestic laws do not permit direct export by OEMs); (iii) Major decisions in the acquisition process being taken in a 'Collegiate' manner; (iv) Enhanced transparency in the conduct of field trials; (v) Pre-bid meetings with vendors; (vi) Prohibiting the use of undue influence by the seller for obtaining any contract with the Government; (vii) Prohibiting the engagement of any individual or firm to recommend to the Government the award of a contract to the seller, and the payment of any amount in respect of any such recommendation.

Both the DPP-2006 and DPM-2006 have been placed on the website of the Ministry of Defence (*www.mod.nic.in*) for enabling ease of access and increased public awareness of defence procurement procedures and processes.

Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) pointed out delays in some defence buys in the report for the year ended March, 2006, submitted in 2007. Defence Procurement Procedure (DPP-2006) under implementation with effect from 1.9.2006 has further streamlined the

procurement procedure and also included a broad time-frame for procurement activities. Recommendations of the CAG have also been taken into account while formulating the DPP-2006.

Levy of licence fee on purchase of new TV set

2588. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a licence fee on purchase of every new TV set will be charged by the Government to support the losses of Prasar Bharati; and

(b) if so, what would be the total revenue earned by the Government from this and how would it be spent?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DASMUNSI): (a) No proposal for charging a license fee is presently under the consideration of Government.

(b) Doesn't arise.

Commodification of women in TV channels

2589. PROF. P. J. KURIEN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the evil impact on society of commodifying women in T.V. channels;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the action Government proposes to curtail this anti-social problem?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYA RANAJAN DASMUNSI): (a) to (c) No such specific complaint has been brought to the notice of the Government. However, some general complaints on obscenity, nudity, vulgarity, etc. have been brought to the notice of the Government and considering the situation, among others, the Government had constituted a committee for reviewing the Programme and Advertising Codes (Content Code) prescribed under the Cable TV Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder to provide greater specificity in the provisions of existing codes. The Committee has submitted its report to the Government on 5.3.2008 which is available on the website of the Ministry *www.mib.nic.in* under the heading "Self-Regulation Guidelines, 2008".

Guidelines issued by censor board on obscenity

2590. SHRI AMIR ALAM KHAN: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) The details of the guidlines issued by the Censor Board to all State Cinema Censor Boards in regard to the obscene dresses/outfits used by the artists in films;

(b) the details of the norms fixed by the Censor Board for giving certificate to Hindi film *vis-a-vis* other regional films; and